Crisis Faced by Handloom Industry in Certain Districts of Uttar Pradesh

2806. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the handloom industries in the Districts of Azamgarh and Mau in Uttar Pradesh are facing crisis;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the details of the steps proposed to provide relief to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) While there are no specific reports from Government of Uttar Pradesh regarding crisis in handloom industries in Azamgarh and Mau, the major problem being faced by the handloom weaves in the country including those in Mau and Azamgarh is because of high yarn prices.

(c) Government is constantly reviewing the price situation and has taken corrective steps. The State sector and cooperative sector spinning mills have been directed to augment the production of crucial counts of yarn and exercise restraint in prices. The National Textile Corporation (NTC) has been asked to readjust their production plan to augment production of hank yarn of 40s and below where the price rise has affected the handloom weavers the most. NHDC also has been advised to augment yarn supplies. The Chief Ministers of States have been requested to monitor the production of yarn by cooperative/State sector mills, and to hold regular State Level reviews regarding supply, prices and distribution of hank yarn. The chief Ministers have also been advised to impress upon the District Collectors to organise regular checking of the stocks and selling prices of yarn dealers in the districts, with a view to prevent boarding of yarn. Mau and Azamgarh have areas of silk weaving. Government of India has recently taken a decision to import 200 tonnes of silk yarn which is expected to bring moderation in silk yearn prices which have also been a cause of major problem to silk handloom weavers. Import duty on raw silk is proposed to be reduced from 55% to 30% ad valorem in the 1992-93 budget.

Export of Silk

2807. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whther Government have any proposal to increase the production of silk for export during the current year;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the names of countries to which silk is being exported; and

(d) the details of amount in foreign exchange earned during the last three years through silk export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) Government are making efforts to increase export of silk textile products. The target from export of silk textile products for the year 1991-92 is Rs. 550 crores.

(c) The main countries to which Indian Silk textile products are being exported are:

USA, United Germany,, United Kingdom, Italy, Canada, Spain, UAE, France, Australia, Singapore, Switzerland, Hong Kong, Netherlands, Austria, Japan & Belgium.

(d) The export of silk textile products during the last three years is as under:—

Year	Export of silk textile products
1988-89	Rs. 331 crore
1989-90	Rs. 401 crore
1990-91	Rs. 331 crore

Popularisation of Handloom Products

2808. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to populariese handloom products in the Country in order to help the Handloom Weavers; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 1. The Government have been organising national Handloom Expos in the major Metropolitan Cities of the